

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**  
**Division of Environmental Remediation**  
**Bureau of Eastern Remedial Action, Room 242**  
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October 13, 1999

Mr. James Colter  
Remedial Project Manager  
Department of the Navy  
Northern Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
10 Industrial Highway, MAIL Stop #82  
Lester, PA. 19113-2090

Dear Mr. Colter,

Subject Calverton NWIRP

Subsequent to the Sept. 29, 1999 Calverton RAB meeting in Riverhead, L.I., I spoke to Jim Pim, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, and Stan Farkas and Jeffrey McCullough, NYSDEC, and we collectively agreed to the request and points I had raised at the RAB meeting. I will document these and other items below:

- 1) I am requesting that in the future you should consider Jeffrey McCullough as the primary contact for the Superfund activities at the Calverton site; currently the RCRA involvement is secondary to the Superfund needs. All arrangements for TRC, RAB meetings, submission of documents and questions on the current Superfund activities at Calverton should be done through Mr. McCullough.
- 2) the NYSDEC will require for each RI, a Proposed Remedial Action Plan and a Record of Decision.
- 3) At the end of the RAB meeting we had cleared up with Mr. Dave Brayack the confusion on the use of mud rotary drilling, and that our thoughts on its use do in fact coincide, i.e., mud rotary drilling may be used to an elevation which is ten feet above the top of the screen of a ground water monitoring well. Mr. Brayack then stated that the method agreed to at the Sept. 22, 1999 TRC meeting was one for profiling the aquifer to a depth of 200 feet, which would employ mud rotary drilling. Because of the difficulty of drilling to depth then obtain ground water samples on the upward withdrawal of the slotted auger, he proposed keeping

the slotted auger ahead of the mud rotary system, with the safe distance mentioned above, and obtain samples while advancing the hole.

I had mentioned at the RAB meeting that the DEC over the past 15-20 years had been presented with the argument of lost augers, heaving sands and inability of advancing the drill hole beyond depths of 150 feet on Long Island. DEC has concluded that the source of those arguments stems from low powered drill rigs and with proper torque, depths beyond 200 feet and beyond can be easily attained with a hollow stem auger. This has been proven in many of the State's Superfund projects.

I also mentioned that the Suffolk County Department of Health Services had used its hollow stem auger rigs successfully at the Brookhaven National Laboratory for depths greater than those planned for the Calverton site with no use of mud rotary, and had collected profile samples on the upward withdrawal, to boot. You may wish to contact Mr. Jim Pim, SCDHS regarding the availability of the County's rig(s).

4) My notes for the RAB meeting show that your presentation mentioned three new ground water monitoring wells, but Mr. Pim suggests that the TRC meeting had agreed on nine new GW wells at three sites. I am sure that the pace of the presentation will account for the oversight and will await your work plan before commenting on the adequacy and locations.

5) You had mentioned that the removal project at the Fire Training Site had experienced difficulties and that the Navy was assessing other removal alternatives. Jeff McCullough was unaware of the failure, and with no agreement on how the Navy should make interim reports, I hereby request that you submit all information since our last communication on the Fire Training Area to bring the DEC abreast of events. I am making similar request for the remaining Superfund sites at the Calverton facility, since in fact, significant periods can ensue before the DEC is aware of the latest information.

Please contact Jeff McCullough or me, if you have any questions.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marsden Chen".

Marsden Chen

cc: Sherry Johnson - Calverton RAB  
Jim Pim - SCDHS  
Stan Farkas - DEC R1  
Jeff McCullough